

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-9. (CANCELLED).

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of ultrasonically cutting off the blood supply to a uterine fibroid, comprising the following steps of:

a) providing an ultrasonic transducer configured to emit focused high intensity ultrasound energy;

b) pre-selecting one or more tissue treatment sites located on the uterine fibroid whereby necrosing the tissues at the one or more tissue treatment site will decrease the blood supply to the uterine fibroid.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An efficient heating method using high intensity ultrasound energy comprising the following steps:

a) providing an ultrasound transducer configured to emit focused high intensity ultrasound energy;

b) determining a tissue treatment zone; and

c) energizing the ultrasound transducer to cause pre-focal heating and necrosis of a substantial portion of tissue between the transducer and the transducer's focal point at the tissue treatment zone.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 11 wherein the pre-focal heating of the tissues causes temperature of the issue to increase to about 50°C.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 11, wherein the pre-focal heating of the tissue treatment zone improves efficiency of the overall treatment.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 11, wherein the tissue treatment zone is determined such that necrosis at the tissue treatment zone causes a decrease in blood supply to a tumor.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of treating a uterine fibroid, comprising:

applying high intensity focused ultrasound energy selectively to the uterine fibroid base; and

repeating the application of high intensity focused ultrasound to the uterine fibroid base from a plurality of angles around the circumference of the uterine fibroid.

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16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 15, wherein each application of high intensity focused ultrasound causes heating of tissue in a pie shaped region.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 15, wherein the repeated applications cause substantially the entire uterine fibroid base to be heated.